

Remarks

The Official Action dated June 28, 2005 has been carefully considered. Consideration of the remarks presented herein and reconsideration of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 remain in the present application. The Office Action cites to Carrigan, III as being US Patent 6,546,177. However, this reference was not cited in Applicants' information disclosure statement or on the PTO-Form 892 that accompanied the current or previous Office Action, and it appears from the office action that this citation is referring to US Patent 6,565,177 issued to Corrigan, III (which appears to be related to the Corrigan reference already cited by Applicants). If this assumption is not correct, Applicants request that they be informed. Applicants also request that an additional form PTO-892 be provided by the Patent Office indicating that this reference was considered.

Claim Rejections

In the Office Action, claims 1, 10, 14, 16, 25 and 29-31 were rejected under the argument that they are unpatentable over Corrigan in view of Conta (US 6,371,589), and in view of the newly cited Ishinaga reference (US 2002/0149657). In addition, dependent claims 2-9, 11-13, 15, 17-24, and 26-28 were rejected under the argument that they are unpatentable over Corrigan in view of Conta and Ishinaga as applied to independent claims 1 and 16, and further in view of Tanaka et al. (US 2002/0060333), Aswell (US 2001/0050410), and the Stanley Wolf reference.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. A §103 rejection is not proper unless the combination of references, even assuming arguendo that they could be combined in the manner claimed, teach or suggest all of the claim elements. MPEP § 2143. In the present case, not all elements of the claims are shown by the cited references, even when considered in the argued combination.

Applicants appreciate the acknowledgement in the office action that Corrigan fails to teach sense resistors implanted in the silicon substrate. Conta likewise does not show this feature and is not cited in the Office Action for making up for the deficiency of Corrigan. However, the Office Action now cites to a new reference, Ishinaga, under the argument that it teaches diodes 622 and 623 embedded in a silicon substrate. Applicants do not agree with this argument. Applicants found no indication in the Ishinaga reference that the diodes are implanted into the substrate. The reference has very little discussion of these diodes. The discussion that is present in paragraph 176 makes no reference that the diodes are formed by implantation. FIG. 22 of Ishinaga which is cited in the office action likewise does not indicate how these diodes might be formed. It is very possible that they are formed by techniques other than implantation. A §103 rejection is not proper unless the combination of references, even assuming arguendo that they could be combined in the manner claimed, teach or suggest all of the claim elements. MPEP § 2143. In this case, Applicants found no teaching or suggestion in the references of implantation, for example.

Moreover, Applicants do not find that this discussion of diodes in the Ishinaga reference would provide any teaching or suggestion for forming temperature sense resistors by implantation. In fact, at paragraph 75 of the Ishinaga reference, it is specifically stated that "the temperature sensor 2 is formed adjacent to the ejection heater portion 3 by the same film deposition process that is used when the ejection heater portion 3 is formed." Accordingly, the reference actually teaches away from implantation of temperature sense resistors, in contrast to independent claims 1 and 16. An important indicium of nonobviousness is when prior art teaches away from the claimed invention. *In re Gurley*, 27 F.3d 551, 553, 31 U.S.P.Q.2D 1130, 1132 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

In addition, in contrast to claim 1, Applicants found no teaching or suggestion in the Conta, Corrigan, or Ishinaga references that atoms of an implantation material are directed toward the substrate and beneath the surface. In fact, Applicants found no teaching in any of the three references of atoms or implantation. Again, a §103 rejection is not proper unless the combination of references, even assuming arguendo that they could be combined in the manner claimed, teach or suggest all of the claim elements. MPEP § 2143

Applicants also did not find these features to be in the other references cited in the rejections, nor were those references cited for that purpose. Furthermore, even if prior art could be combined to result in a claimed invention, the combination would not render a claim obvious unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the combination. In re Mills, 16 U.S.P.Q.2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990). In this case, there is no showing of a motivation or suggestion for making the argued combination of references. Even if prior art were capable of being combined or modified to operate as in the claimed invention, there must be some suggestion or motivation in the references to combine them to arrive at the subject matter of the claims. MPEP § 2143.01.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the rejections and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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